



Teacher's Guide: Ages 4-5
God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis through Joshua
Unit 5, Lesson 22

Creating the World: Days 1 & 2

Lesson Aim: To know God created the heavens and the earth.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Creates

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 1:1-8

What He Has Done: God made the heavens and the earth.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Let there be light."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Genesis 1:1, 3

Unit 5: The God Who Creates			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
22	Creating the World: Days 1 & 2, Genesis 1:1-8	God made the heavens and the earth.	To know God created the heavens and the earth.
23	Creating the World: Days 3 & 4, Genesis 1:9-19	God made the land, sea, sun, moon, stars, plants, trees, and flowers.	To know how God filled the heavens and the earth.
24	Creating the World: Days 5 & 6, Genesis 1:20-31	God made the birds, sea creatures, animals, creeping things, and people.	To know how God created the living creatures.
25	Adam and Eve in the Garden, Genesis 2:15-22	God made Adam and Eve and placed them in the garden.	To know God created us for relationships with Him and with one another.
26	The Day of Rest, Genesis 2:1-3	After God worked, He rested.	To know why God wants us to rest.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 104:1-6. Please join us in praying, "Lord, thank You for the heavens and the earth. Create in us a clean heart that we might glorify You as we teach Your children. Amen."

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a light bulb or flashlight
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Let there be light."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "In the Beginning" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Be Still and Know" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 22
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Genesis 1:1-8	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 1:1 Visual: Flashlight
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Let There Be Light	Styrofoam or paper cups, sturdy white and black paper, craft sticks, white glitter glue or white sequins, glue, tape
		Game: Powerful Words	None
		Game: "And There Was Light!"	Flashlight or night light
		Snack: Light and Dark	Marshmallows to represent clouds or Oreo-type cookies (black & white sandwich cookies) to represent the contrast between light and dark
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 5, Lesson 22 Color This Story: "In the Beginning"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Genesis 1:1-8	None
	Up to 10	Game: In the Beginning	Beanbag, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"
	Up to 10	Game: God's Creations	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about creation

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Let there be light

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a light bulb or flashlight representing light. NOTE: Avoid images of the sun or stars for today's sticker; they will be used in Lesson 23. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a light bulb (or flashlight) remind you that light was the first thing God made. Today's Whisper Verse is "Let there be light." Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Let there be light."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

"Let (there be)" The fingertips of the hands point down and then move up with a slight forward movement.

"light." The middle finger is flicked by the front of the mouth.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Let there be light," Genesis 1:3. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who creates **THE WORSHIP**

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to God who created us. Who knows what the word "create" means? (To make something.) The very first story in the Bible tells us that God created the heavens and the earth. He made everything! Our new Bible Memory Verse tells us what happened on that first day. Let's listen to it while we give our offering to the God who created the heavens and the earth. Sing: "In the Beginning" while collecting the offering.

The first thing God made when He started creating the heavens and the earth was light. He made light by just saying, "Let there be light." That is today's Whisper Verse, "Let there be light." Let's try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: "Let there be light." Include sign language.



Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know what God created on that very first day. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 22.



God's words are so powerful that He created light by just saying four words: "Let there be light." It is important for us to listen to the words of God. Sing: "I Will Listen."

Let's sing a song with all of creation to praise God for the wonderful world He has made! Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."



God created heaven and earth

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

**With my eyes on my teacher;
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.**

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned about the miracles of Jesus. Today, we will learn about the very first miracle of all—when God created the heavens and the earth. To create means to make something. God made the heavens and the earth out of nothing. Let's open our Bible to the very first words in the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 1:1.

WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 1:1-8

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a flashlight. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **In the beginning God did create**
- **The heavens and the earth.**
- **Then God said, "Let there be light,"**
- **God saw it was good. And He was right.**

- **Then God called the light, "day."**
- **He called the darkness, "night."**
- **That was the first day and night.**
- **On the second day, He made the sky!**



Who created the heavens and the earth? (God.) Let's find our answer in the Bible.
Read Genesis 1:1 from the teacher's Bible.

Who created light? (God.) How did He create it? (God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.) Let's say our Whisper Verse together: "Let there be light." Include sign language or hand motions.



See the light God made with His words

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: LET THERE BE LIGHT

Purpose: Children connect God's spoken command to create light and learn part of the memory verse.

Supplies: Styrofoam or paper cups, sturdy white and black paper, craft sticks, white glitter glue or white sequins, glue, tape

Prepare: Parallel to the bottom of the cup, cut a long horizontal slit about halfway around the cup. The cut needs to be wide enough to insert a circle of paper and a craft stick. On the cup or on a label, print: **"Let there be light." Genesis 1:3.** From white sturdy paper, cut a white paper circle that will fit inside the slit. From black sturdy paper, cut a circle that will fit in the bottom of the cup.

Creation Care Option: Substitute recycled cardboard tubes (empty toilet paper rolls or paper towel rolls) for the cup. Instead of black paper, secure black fabric to the end of the tubing with an elastic band. Share in class: **Recycling is reusing plastic and paper items in order to care for the parts of creation used to make these things. By using the tubing, we are recycling and caring for God's creation.**

Directions:

1. Glue the black circle to the inside bottom of the cup.
2. Decorate the white circle with white sequins or white glitter glue.
3. Tape a craft stick to the back of the white circle.
4. Children peer through the cup into the darkness. Lead the children in saying, **"And God said, 'Let there be light.'"**
5. Holding the craft stick, insert the white circle through the slit until it covers the darkness.
6. Children peer through the cup into the light. Lead the children in saying, **"And there was light."**

Craft Discussion:

- **What is your favorite kind of light?** (Sunlight, moonlight, lamplight, candlelight, Christmas lights, flashlight, etc.)
- **Next time you see your favorite kind of light, say today's Whisper Verse to remember how God created light.** ("Let there be light.")

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: POWERFUL WORDS

Purpose: To create and become a creation as the word is spoken, in order to better understand the creative power of God's words.

Supplies: None

How did God create light? (He used His words, "Let there be light.") **When God said it, it happened. Only God can do that. At first, the earth had no shape. In this game, you each will be little lumps of clay with no shape. When I say the word, pretend to become the creation I name.**

Directions:

1. Children crouch on the floor as shapeless lumps of clay.
2. Teacher says: **"Let there be frogs."** Encourage the children to stand, jump, and croak like frogs.
3. Children say together: **"And there were frogs."**
4. Play several times suggesting different animals: dogs, cats, snakes, sheep, snakes, birds, etc.

GAME: "AND THERE WAS LIGHT!"

Purpose: Children connect the spoken command with the resulting creation.

Supplies: Flashlight or night light

Note: To avoid frightening children with complete darkness, turn on a night light before turning off the lights.

Directions:

1. Child turns off the lights.
2. Children say together: **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said, 'Let there be light.'"**
3. Child turns on the lights and says: **"And there was light!"**
4. Repeat until each child has a turn at the light switch.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: LIGHT AND DARK

Purpose: Children will remember God created the light and the dark.

Snack Suggestion: Marshmallows to represent clouds or Oreo-type cookies (black & white sandwich cookies) to represent the contrast between light and dark

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father, once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Think about light and dark. How do you feel when you are in a dark room?** (Sleepy, afraid, bored, etc.) **How do you feel when someone turns on a light in a dark room?** (Better, safe, etc.)
 - **Darkness helps us see the light more clearly. Who made the darkness?** (God made everything, even darkness.)
 - **God loves you and watches over you. Next time you become afraid in the dark, close your eyes and think about each wonderful thing God has created for us.**
 - **Creation Care:** One way to thank God for the earth is to care for it. We can help take care of it by recycling our plastic cups. Recycling is reusing items in order to care for the parts of creation used to make these things. Optional: After our snack, let's save our cups to use in a craft on another day.



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Let There Be Light" craft. Tell someone how God made light by just using His words!

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about ways you can care for God's creation.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "In the Beginning." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "In the Beginning," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

Teacher's Tip: In the GOT TIME? segment of lesson 26, classes are encouraged to play a favorite creation game from lessons 22-25. Be sure to hold onto game supplies of any game you would like to play again.

SAY & DO: GENESIS 1:1-8

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **In the beginning God did create** (Point upwards to God in heaven.)
- **The heavens and the earth.** (Use hands to make a round earth shape.)
- **Then God said, "Let there be light."** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **God saw it was good. And He was right.** (Thumbs up.)

- **Then God called the light, "day."** (The middle finger is flicked by the front of the mouth.)
- **He called the darkness, "night."** (Lay head on folded hands as if sleeping.)
- **That was the first day and night.** (Display index finger.)
- **On the second day, He made the sky!** (Point to the sky.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Genesis 1:1, 3

GAME: IN THE BEGINNING

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Beanbag, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"

Directions:

1. Stand in a circle with the children.
2. **In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Let's tell each other some of the things God created.**
3. Toss the beanbag to one of the children in the circle.
4. Child names one thing God created (trees, flowers, dogs, bugs, people).
5. Child tosses the beanbag to another child.
6. Repeat until each child has a turn.
7. At the end of the game, sing the Unit 5 Memory Verse Song.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: GOD'S CREATIONS

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"

Let's pretend we are some of the amazing creatures God has created.

Directions:

1. Children line up behind you.
2. As you play the Bible Memory Verse Song, lead the children in walking around the room as they act out your creation instructions. Instructions may be used more than once.
Examples:
"Let's creep like a quiet mouse."
"Let's slither like a snake."
"Let's wave our branches like a tree."
"Let's roar like a lion."
"Let's jump like a frog."
"Let's grow from a seed to a beautiful flower."
"Let's shine bright like the sun."
"Let's twinkle like the stars."
3. After a short time, have a helper pause the music. Stop and recite the Bible Memory Verse with the children.
4. When you begin the music again, choose another of God's creations to act out. Allow the children to take turns leading.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about creation.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 5, Lesson 22: Creating the World: Days 1 & 2

PONDER! Read Genesis 1:1-8 with your family. God created everything. Did you know that no one created God? He has always been alive and always will be alive. Talk about that mystery with your family. What did God say or do to make light? How big do you think the light was?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "God, thank You for creating the heavens and the earth. Help us take good care of all that You have made. Amen."

PLAY! One way to thank God for the earth is to take care of it. We can help take care of it by saving electricity. Use energy saving light bulbs and turn off lights you aren't using them.

Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1, 3

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."